

City Swelters Under 102° Heat of Tropical Storm

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Torrance Herald

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TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1959

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DITCHER CUTS GAS LINE, BURNS

A Penny for your Thoughts

An on-the-spot survey in downtown Torrance this week by the HERALD disclosed that residents want another playground in the city and the abolishment of parking meters.

Of five persons queried, two—when asked the question "What community improvement would you most like to see in Torrance?"—replied they desired another playground. Two others felt parking meters were a nuisance.

Ron Beauchamp, 909 Owoso, Hermosa Beach, who operates an employment agency in Torrance, said: "I'd like to see the city do away with all parking meters. I think meters hurt the merchants more than any other thing; it hurts business."

Mrs. Jack Wixom, 917-D Portola Ave., said, "Torrance should have another playground for children, especially since the city is growing so rapidly."

Robert Dowdy, 14, of 1324 Elm, Torrance High freshman, said: "What we need is another park. The city could use another one. It would give the kids a place for more recreation."

R. E. Hendricks, 205th St., stated: "I think Torrance has too many parking meters. Why, do you know that there's even one in front of the unemployment office?"

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City Traffic Injures Four

Four separate motor vehicle accidents in the past three days resulted in minor injuries to four persons, Torrance police records showed.

Two children suffered minor injuries—bruises and bumps—when the sports car they were riding in was in collision with another sports car at 12:07 p.m. Thursday at Via Bonita and Via Linda Vista.

A 1957 sports car driven by Arthur Hugh Snider, 28, 209 S. Catalina, Redondo Beach, entering a curve northbound from Calle Mirimar, collided with a 1958 Form Thunderbird driven by Mrs. Margaret A. Vonderahe, 34, housewife, 1405 Via Montemar. Her car, police said, entered the curve southbound from Via Linda Vista.

THE YOUNGSTERS injured in Mrs. Vonderahe's car were Marie Vonderahe, 4½, and Kit Burnell, the same age. A passing motorist took them to a neighborhood physician for first aid treatment and they were released. Police said Snider's machine had major front damage while the Thunderbird had moderate damage.

Mark Wilbur, 5½, 5503 Hallson St., was not injured when the bike on which he was riding rolled down his driveway into a car going westbound operated by Mrs. Delores Pritchard, 1811 Phelan Lane, Redondo Beach.

Mrs. Ruth N. Wilson, 38, of 5517 Laurette, suffered a "whiplash" neck injury and cuts and bruises when the car she was driving north on Hawthorne Blvd. and Garnet was in collision at 3:40 p.m. Friday with a beer truck operated by Louis Daniel Pelagna, 49, Los Angeles. The woman's car had extensive rear damage while the truck had moderate left front damage.

Mrs. Wilson was taken by ambulance to a local doctor for treatment and then transferred to Riviera Hospital, where she was still confined yesterday.

Chief Warns Vandals on Rack Raids

Theft and destruction of newspaper racks throughout the city has reached serious proportions, Police Chief Percy Bennett said yesterday. Vandals have been looting coins from honor racks of several newspapers, and in many cases, causing extensive damage to the expensive "bubble" racks.

Bennett said he was asking his officers to be especially alert for such vandals.

Police are now checking several leads, many of them furnished by the HERALD, Bennett said.

A THREE-WAY collision of three station wagons caused minor injuries to one person at 4:35 p.m. Friday. Miss Maureen Frank, 18, of 18920 Doty, El Camino College freshman, suffered leg, arm and body cuts and bruises while driving a small station wagon at 182nd St. and Regina. Her vehicle had major front end damage. She was driving eastbound on 182nd, as were the other two machines, driven by Mrs. Miriam Moulton, 31, of 26613 Shorewood, Rd., Rolling Hills, and Charles Smith, North High student, 17805 Florwood. Mrs. Moulton's vehicle had rear end damage, as did Smith's station wagon.



WHY NOT COUSIN? . . . After having such a good time looking at picture books on the opening day of kindergarten Thursday morning at Torrance Elementary school Jimmy Kennedy (right) couldn't understand why he had to leave just because he was only three and his cousin Phillip Kennedy, 5, got to stay with the other children attending school for the first time this year. Both boys live with Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kennedy, at 2255 S. Torrance Blvd. (Herald Photo)

Man Badly Hurt in Blaze

A Manhattan Beach construction worker was hospitalized here Friday with severe burn injuries when a ditch digging machine he was operating ruptured a gas main in a new housing project.

Howard L. Flesher, 40, of Manhattan Beach was rushed to Harbor General Hospital with first and second degree burns on the upper portion of his body after the equipment burst into flames. He was reported as "improved" yesterday.

Both the machine and Flesher were engulfed in flames, and fellow workers pulled the victim free of the ditcher and beat out the flames on his body.

Sheriff's deputies said the ditcher chewed into the main in the new Sun Ray Estates development in the 21400 block of Marigold Ave., which is located on the former Carson estate east of the city.

The ditching machine was destroyed by the flames.

On Weekend

MORE HEAT SEEN

Another sultry day is expected in Torrance today—but not nearly as torrid as it was Friday afternoon between 3 and 4 when the mercury hit 102 degrees, tying the record set that day at Long Beach.

Saturday's temperature high at Torrance Municipal Airport was 84 degrees but the relative humidity reached 75 per cent, thus accounting for that "hotter feeling" you probably experienced. Temperature low early Saturday was a warm 70 degrees.

A 77-year-old man suffered a heart attack at 5:32 p.m. Friday, possibly brought on by the heat, according to authorities. The man, Dell Frauhiger, 2409 Andro, was given first aid with a resuscitator unit rushed to his home by Rescue Co. 1 of Torrance Fire Dept. headquarters at Crenshaw Blvd. and Carson St.

The elderly man was listed in fair condition yesterday at Torrance Memorial Hospital.

Milkman Falls, Cuts Arm While on Route

Who says the life of a milkman is easy? Jesse Kroos, 50, of 3134 Lomina, Long Beach, slipped and fell while on his route early Saturday at 5530 Via Del Valley, cutting his right forearm when the half-gallon milk container he was carrying broke.

Sears Adding Finishing Touches to Local Store

With the application of the finishing touches to the exterior, and arrival of interior fixtures, Sears, Roebuck and Co.'s new multi-million-dollar

Torrance retail store in the Del Amo Center is rapidly nearing completion. Preliminary plans are being prepared for its formal opening.

In a joint announcement K. R. Barton, Los Angeles district manager, and J. G. Lowe, manager of the new Torrance store, said that their inspection of the premises yesterday revealed preparations were proceeding at a rate that should enable the huge store to make its formal bow to the public soon.

Architects Stiles and Robert Clements, and Hilt & Rhodes, general contractors for the Sears development, advised the Sears officials that there were many unfinished details, and the uncertainty of their completion time made it impossible to name a firm opening date.

THE MASSIVE ultra-modern, fully air-conditioned retail store of brick, reinforced steel, and decorative rock, acquired the final exterior touches just 51 weeks since construction began Sept. 11, 1958, on the Sears 23-acre site at the south end of the Del Amo Shopping Center mall.

The new shopping center is in keeping with Sears trends during recent years to construct large stores with adequate customer parking on the periphery of downtown areas. Parking space for close to 2000 customer cars is provided on the Sears property, which includes 18 acres of parking adjoining the existing parking area of the center.

TORRANCE'S NEW Sears store can boast of being one of the largest of the firm's retail units in Los Angeles County, with a gross area surpassed by

comparatively few Sears stores in the entire United States. The main store structure itself has close to three acres of floor space under a single roof. The complete retailing layout has a total square footage of 263,743

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23,888 Students Enroll On First Day of School

Nearly 24,000 students returned to the city classrooms Thursday.

First-day enrollment in the city schools fell about 1000

short of the estimates given for the fall term, but school officials are not ready to throw in the towel yet.

They fully expect another

1000 to enroll within the next few days.

It's tradition, school executives say, for a number of students to miss the first days for a number of reasons, including vacations, illness, or confusion about the various starting dates in the area.

Elementary school enrollments totaled 19,165 the first day, while 4723 showed up for high school classes.

Meadow Park led the elementary list with 1018 students, Howard Wood was second with 902.

On the high school level, North High tabulated 1835, South High 1685, and Torrance High 1203.

Elementary enrollment figures for all schools: Anza—764; Arlington—665; Calle Mayor—466; Carr—841; Crenshaw—663; Edison—655; Fern-Greenwood—856; Flavian—785; Hamilton—482; Hillside—680; Jefferson—572; Lincoln—662; Madrona—622; Magruder—449; Meadow Park—1018; Newton—755; Parkway—675; Perry—797; Riviera—826; Sepulveda—657; Steele—897; Torrance Elementary—813; Waleria—650; Wood—902 and Yukon—544.



FIREMEN BATTLE BLAZE . . . Firemen are shown above bringing under control a fire that started mysteriously in Palos Verdes Estates late Thursday afternoon. Luckily, firemen reported, a brisk wind wasn't blowing, else there would have been considerable fire damage. Torrance Fire Dept. dispatched two units, No. 4 at Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Hwy., and No. 2, 242nd St. and Neece to the scene. The units remained on standby basis as the blaze was almost under control when they arrived. (Herald Photo)



NEW TORRANCE SIGN . . . A 56-foot neon sign weighing 12200 pounds is swung into place on the south face of the new Sears-Torrance as the multi-million dollar store in the Del Amo Center nears completion. An opening date can be announced soon, officials said after an inspection tour yesterday. (Herald Photo)